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Vol 4 Blockade

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MORNING 67,692
SUNDAY 104,874

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K. HECHLER

Campaign Talks Ended By Hechler

WASHINGTON—Following two days of briefing by defense and state department officials and the director of the Central Intelligence Agency, Rep. Ken Hechler, D. W. Va., announced Saturday that in view of the gravity of the Cuban crisis and the worsening international situation he will make no further campaign speeches.

Rep. Hechler accompanied West Virginia Gov. W. W. Barron and other members of the Civil Defense Committee of the Governors Conference to a Saturday Pentagon briefing by Deputy Secretary of Defense Roswell Gilpatric and CIA Director John A. McCone, followed by a visit to the White House. On Friday, Rep. Hechler met with Undersecretary of State George Ball and Assistant Secretary of State for Intelligence Roger Hillsman.

"The success of our naval blockade may lull us into a sense of false security," Hechler said. "Actually the most critical time may come when we take steps to remove the Soviet missile bases in Cuba. The situation is so serious that I cannot in conscience disturb the needed unity of the people by continuing to campaign actively."

Hechler said that a majority of the briefings he had attended thus far related to U. S. intelligence of Soviet moves and intentions. He said he would probably remain in Washington through Monday in order to obtain additional information on the operational side of the blockade as revealed by the Navy Department and other military sources.

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